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HOW TO READ CHARACTER.

BY

F. C. EMBERSON,

AUTHOR OF THE ART OF TEACHING.

MONTREAL :
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HOW TO READ CHARACTER.

THE well ascertained laws of the Four Temperaments, supply a teacher with one of the most scientific and yet simple means of finding out the characters and dispositions of her scholars. An analysis of them will be found in the accompanying tables. By means of Table I., it is easy to find out to which of the Temperaments anyone's bodily characteristics belong, or to what extent two Temperaments are commingled in him. Then with the help of Table II., you will be able to read off his mental qualities and his general character with astonishing accuracy and down to the most minute detail.

Perhaps the best way to show how to use these tables is by an example.

Let us suppose that you want to find out the character of a certain man well known in public life in Montreal. Write down his name **F.** on a sheet of paper and, referring to Table I., ask yourself:

What is his "Body?"

On reading over the four different sets of epithets under the word "Body" in Table I., it will be generally agreed that the description "Fat, well-rounded, not strong," applies to his person more than any other there given. In Body, therefore, he belongs to the "Placid Temperament," and you must write the words "In Body P." (P. standing for Placid), opposite his name.

Then ask yourself "What is his height?" Is it "Tall," "Tallish," "Average," or "Small?"

The answer will be "Tall or Tallish," and you must add to his description the words "Height, P. or S."

After similarly going through the whole list of the bodily characteristics, his full description will read off as follows:—Mr. F.;—In Body, P. (for Placid); Height, P. or S. (whether Placid or Sanguine may be determined by the context). Flesh, P.— Face, P.— Complexion, P.— Eyes, P.— Hair, P.— Beard, P.— Movements, P. S.— His movements, that is, show a combination of the Placid and Sanguine characteristics being solid as well as vigorous. Mr. F..... is, therefore an example of the all but purely Placid Temperament, and his character will be read off from Table II. as follows—

Intellect, limited, plodding, and not bright; Judgment, reliable; Memory, slow (especially, in his case, slow to forget); Imagination, cold; Resolutions, slowly formed, but firm when formed; Feelings, gentle and not lively. His vices are checked by prayer and habit. He is calm, gentle, guileless and patient. He is quiet and soothing in manner, His most marked characteristic is love of repose.

The bodily characteristics of some persons will be found to be a mixture of P. and S., Placid and Sanguine; those of others to be N. and B. (Nervous and Bilious). But as their mental idiosyncrasies will be, at any rate, partially known, there will be, generally, but little difficulty in determining which of the two temperaments suits them best under each of the several heads in Table II.

Suppose for instance that a man's bodily peculiarities show that the Nervous and Bilious temperaments are combined in him. There will be no difficulty in determining whether his manners are "Sympathetic and Pleasant" as in the Nervous, or "Silent and Abrupt" as in the Bilious Temperament.

